



Ninety-Seventh Legislature - Second Special Session - 2002
Committee Statement
LB 49

Hearing Date: August 5, 2002

Committee On: Health and Human Services

Introducer(s): (Appropriations Committee)

Title: Change duties of the Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing related to the telehealth system

Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:

- X Advanced to General File
 - Advanced to General File with Amendments
 - Indefinitely Postponed
-

Vote Results:

7	Yes	Senator Jensen, Byars, Suttle, Price, Cunningham, Maxwell and Erdman
	No	
	Present, not voting	
	Absent	

Proponents:

Senator Roger Wehrbein

Representing:

Introducer

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

Explanation of amendments, if any: The bill makes the provision of a telehealth system operated by the Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing optional rather than mandatory. The bill is intended to allow the Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing maximum flexibility in managing their budget under the across-the-board cuts proposed by the Governor.

The commission presently has a grant available to operate the telehealth system. This bill allows the agency to continue to operate the system with grant funding and available general funds, if they choose. It does not require the agency to continue the function if future grant funding is unavailable or General Fund appropriations are insufficient to sustain operation of the system.

Senator Jim Jensen, Chairperson